

INCREASED PAY FOR GUNNERS OF FIELD ARTILLERY.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

RECOMMENDING

LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE PAY FOR GUNNERS OF FIELD
ARTILLERY AND INCLOSING THE DRAFT OF A BILL.

JANUARY 13, 1904.—Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to
be printed.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, January 8, 1904.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a letter from the chief of staff, dated December 31 ultimo, who invites attention to the provisions of section 7 of the act of February 2, 1901, "To increase the efficiency of the permanent military establishment of the United States," relative to the pay of gunners, and recommends, for reasons set forth, that the accompanying draft of a provision authorizing increased pay for gunners of field artillery be inserted in the army appropriation bill under the item of "Pay of enlisted men."

Favorable action by Congress in the premises is thought to be fully warranted.

Very respectfully,

ELIHU ROOT,
Secretary of War.

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF,
Washington, December 31, 1903.

SIR: I have the honor to invite attention to the provisions of section 7 of the act of February 2, 1901, "To increase the efficiency of the permanent military establishment of the United States," which provides that first-class gunners shall receive \$2 per month, and second-class gunners \$1 per month in addition to their pay.

It appears to have been held that the term "gunners," as used in this act, applies only to coast artillery, as the field artillery had no such class when that law was passed. By subsequent orders, however, gunners of the first and second class have been provided for in the field artillery, and I deem it for the best interests of the service that the same encouragement be given to enlisted men of the field artillery to qualify for the gunner class as is given in the coast artillery, and so avoid unfair discrimination. I therefore recommend that the inclosed copy of a provision authorizing the increased pay for gunners of field artillery be inserted in the army appropriation bill under the item of "Pay of enlisted men."

Very respectfully,

S. B. M. YOUNG,
Lieutenant-General, Chief of Staff.

The SECRETARY OF WAR.

To be inserted in the army appropriation bill, under item of pay of enlisted men, a provision to the following effect:

For extra pay to gunners of field artillery, eleven thousand one hundred and sixty dollars: *Provided*, That hereafter first-class gunners of field artillery shall receive two dollars per month, and second-class gunners one dollar per month, in addition to their pay.

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